



*The Radio Amateur Society
of Australia*

QTC

June 2025

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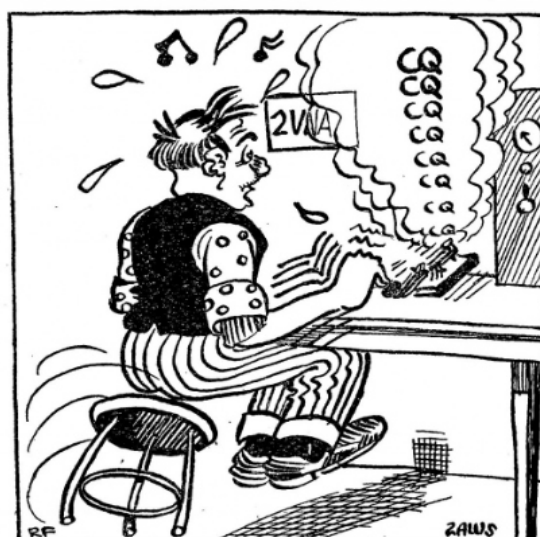
Cover picture credit:

Background image used with permission of photographer. The picture is an early morning scene at HamCampion, in VK6, showing VK6PAW Glynn examining his antennas mounted on the fence.

QTC Magazine welcomes contributions for future editions. When planning to submit an article, please read our submission guidelines first.

Following the guidelines will save you and the editing team a lot of time and effort. The guidelines are [HERE](#)

Amateur Radio is a relaxing hobby.



From the President

Bob VK6POP Vice President



A while ago I attended the Annual General Meeting of an Amateur Radio Club, and as AGMs go, it was pretty good. But it got me thinking about AGMS and what, in my experience, they have been, what they are, and what they might be.

Probably the most exciting part of an AGM is its closing, however there is more to an AGM than getting it over with in as short a time as possible.

Over the years I've seen different approaches to AGMs, sometimes members stay away, others get a good turnout. What's the difference?

Firstly let's look at the purpose of an AGM. Most club constitutions are clear on the business of an Annual General Meeting, and the two major functions of the meeting are to elect office bearers and receive reports from the outgoing committee. I call these the major functions because they are the only functions that ought to be performed at every AGM. It's in your constitution.

Next, there is provision for motions on notice. These motions are usually about changes to the club's constitution, or other business provided for in the constitution.

So, what makes a good AGM? My experience of well run AGMS is where the committee has done its homework prior to the AGM. They make sure that there are suitable nominations for all committee positions, that all reports have been circulated prior to the meeting, that the venue is suitable, and refreshments have been arranged.

I've heard it said sometimes, when an AGM is run quickly and efficiently, that members "werent given a fair go to have their say". In other words they wanted to be able to go on about their favourite topic in front of an audience.

In reality, the committee should create opportunities throughout the year for people to voice their opinions or ask questions.

A simple way to deal with people who wish to have a say or ask questions is to close the AGM and have a question and answer session after tea and coffee is served.

No two AGMs are the same, and I would never advocate that they should be. Good AGMs, however, have a couple of things in common. These are preparation and resolution.

Preparation - get all the nominations in early, reports published and circulated, the meeting advertised well within the timelines required by the constitution, and early discussion about any motions on notice to be decided at the AGM.

Resolution. Sort things out. Most issues can be resolved at ordinary meetings, face to face discussion, or even via an email list.

And remember that the club doesn't need to be pressed or rushed into making major decisions at an AGM. If the group isn't sure, or not ready yet, allow the motion to lapse, with a plan to discuss over a period of time and if required call a special general meeting.

And finally, make the AGM enjoyable and non-threatening. Make it a celebration of a successful year. Make sure people can leave the meeting without having felt pressed into accepting a committee role.

So please do prepare for your AGM. Don't let day to day issues accumulate for airing at the AGM. Keep the AGM as a celebration, not a post mortem.

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Editorial

What Has RASA Ever Done for us?

I was recalling this funny skit from “The Life of Brian”, where the members of the Judean People’s Front (or was that the People’s Front of Judea?) were sitting around trying to think up criticisms of Rome, and all they could think up were things that Rome had actually DONE for them, eventually compiling an impressive list of things that Rome had actually achieved for their country of Judea.

I did not have the advantage of a similar thinktank as had the JPF, or the PFJ. Imagine the People’s Front of Amateur Radio (or the Amateur Radio People’s Front), sitting around wondering what “THEY” have ever done for them.

“They” in this case is RASA, the Radio Amateur Society of Australia, and PFAR (or ARPF) is asking what it is that RASA actually does for them.

“What has RASA ever done for us?”

RASA was formed to provide an alternative (note: not replacement) representative body for Radio Amateurs in Australia. But what has RASA ever done for us?

- Provides evidence based representation to the ACMA on behalf of Australian Amateurs
- Listens to Australian Amateurs. Seeks their opinions
- Kept Amateurs informed using email lists, news bulletins and QTC Magazine
- Published a Foundation Level Study Guide - Online and free.
- Developed and maintain the QRM GURU online QRM busting website
- Developed the free “Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook”

- Provide the “Amateur Radio Welcome Pack” to course providers
- Maintain the VK Regs site, explaining Australian Amateur Radio regulations
- Gained 2x1 contest calls for VK Amateurs

RASA acts on behalf of all Amateurs, whether or not they are RASA members. All of our resources are free, and can be accessed by everyone. RASA membership is not required, although of course we welcome new members.

The RASA management team recently met for a weekend, in order to take stock of where we’re up to, and future directions for the group. More on this in a future edition. The RASA team remains committed to serving the Australian Amateur radio community. We are able to give our services free to Amateurs, because of our economical management model. All work is done by volunteers, and our outgoings are minimal.

Because of our low operating costs, we only ask members for ten dollars a year membership fee. Many choose to donate an extra amount, which is very generous, however it is not expected.

We apologise to the People’s Front of Amateur Radio (or the Amateur Radio People’s Front) for taking the wind out of their sails, however we’re open to suggestions about what else we could “ever do” for Amateur Radio.

In this issue of QTC you’ll see RASA’s response to the ACMA Consultation on remaking the Amateur LCD, and update on the This is Amateur Radio project, a story about setting up a remote station in a loft, Workshop tips and tricks, a report on the VK6 HamCamption, an article explaining Maidenhead Locators, and more news.

QTC is published through the efforts of RASA volunteers and contributing writers. RASA welcomes new contributors. Contact the team by [email](#).

Remaking the Amateur Licence Conditions Determination - RASA's Response



The Radio Amateur Society of Australia inc.

BEING HEARD IS IMPORTANT

vkradioamateurs.org



On the 14th of April 2025 the ACMA opened a consultation period for changes to the Amateur LCD. We understand that this is a necessary part of the adjustment process on the transition to a class license. We have examined the proposed changes in the ACMA document and have no issue with the majority of the recommendations made.

There are four items that we submit to the ACMA:

Item 1. Entertainment provisions

This item is in reference to the ACMA proposed removal of the restriction to:
'Transmitting a message that contains any form of entertainment.'

We concur that this restriction in its previous form is outdated and for most part unenforceable. The application of jingles and musical sound bites in conjunction Amateur news broadcasts should not be the subject of complaints to the ACMA. However, we seek some clarity in the amendment as to how far this change is intended to reach. For example, would this extend to enablement to transmit pre-recorded or live music of any duration? Such an event could still be construed as being disruptive to the hobby. Is the lifting of this restriction intended to be limited specific forms entertainment or widespread in nature? A core function of RASA is to inform the sector of changes and provide clarifications of rule variations by the ACMA. We would like to have a better understanding of the intended reach of this proposal.

Item 2. Inadvertent retransmission of Foundation or Standard operators.

Section 7 of the draft LCD, under **Conditions – purposes and transmissions** states the following:

- (7) A person must not operate an amateur station to transmit a signal to another amateur station through:
 - (a) an amateur repeater station, unless the person is authorised to transmit on the repeater output of the amateur repeater station; or
 - (b) two or more amateur repeater stations (the **interim stations**) that are capable of transmitting to one or more of the interim stations unless the person is authorised to use the repeater output of each of the interim stations; or
 - (c) a third amateur station that is not an amateur repeater station unless the person is authorised to transmit on the third amateur station's transmission frequency; or
 - (d) two or more other amateur stations that are not amateur repeater stations (the **interim stations**), unless the person is authorised to transmit on the transmission frequency of each of the interim stations.

In practical terms we believe this section to be unnecessary, confusing and unenforceable.

With modern networks and repeater links an operator transmitting on an authorised frequency may not have control or knowledge as to what or where their transmission is being linked to at any given moment.

It is our position that when an operator is transmitting on a frequency, mode and power level consistent with their qualification, then they are fully compliant. If they are deliberately or inadvertently being linked to a device that re-transmits to another frequency outside of their normal allocation, then they are not responsible for that re-transmission and remain compliant.

It still remains the responsibility of any owner of a repeater or retransmission device to maintain its output frequency and power. However under the present callsign policy, it is not possible for the device owner to discern whether the input transmission is from a Foundation, Standard or Advanced operator and therefore has no capacity to restrict individual operators based upon their personal qualification.

The existing regulation creates anomalous situations. For example, a Foundation operator is legitimately accessing a 2 metre band DSTAR repeater for a contact. During this time a time an Advanced operator on a 23 cm DSTAR repeater chooses to establish a link to that same 2 Metre repeater. In such circumstances, the Foundation operator would be unaware that they are appearing on 23cm and making them non-compliant under Section 7. Therefore it is unreasonable to deem the Foundation operator responsible for such relay events.

Section 7 no longer reflects the reality of contemporary communications. It is our position that the entirety of sub-Section 7 should be removed from the LCD.

There is a precedent for this situation. A Foundation operator may transmit 5 watts into a repeater device even though the repeater output greatly exceeds their permissible power. Using a high power repeater does not make a Foundation operator non-compliant. The operator has no control over that power output level, in the same way they have little or no control over the frequency of that output device.

Item 3. Additional conditions for the prevention of misleading conduct

Section 6 of the draft LCD, under **Conditions – purposes and transmissions** states the following:

- (6) A person must not cause an amateur station to be operated without a person being at the location of the station, unless:
 - (a) the station is:
 - (i) operated using an automatic mode; or
 - (ii) operated using a computer controlled mode; or
 - (iii) an amateur repeater station; or
 - (iv) an amateur beacon station; and
 - (b) the station is fitted with a timer that causes automatic shutdown of the station if a malfunction causes an unintended transmission that lasts longer than 10 minutes; and
 - (c) a transmission from the station can be terminated promptly if the transmission causes interference to another service.

The meaning of this section is clear and has been fit for purpose and wording should remain unchanged. In light of recent technological developments it is our position that this section should be complimented with an additional section.

Background:

We are entering an era where developments in AI technology can create situations previously impossible. This technology is becoming more prevalent and inevitably Amateur operators will have access to it. Specifically, it is possible to sample a voice and transmit speech in a way that many will believe is coming from a different person. This act is a deliberate misrepresentation. We are aware of instances where this has already happened on Amateur transmissions within Australia. Certainly we saw examples of this misrepresentative technology in use on social media during the approach of the 2025 Federal election

Furthermore, autonomous AI sources are now capable of taking control of a transceiver and having contacts with other stations who may believe that they are in contact with a human. It is already possible to set up an automated station to make a succession of radio contacts on multiple bands, while its human owner is otherwise occupied or absent entirely. Distant stations may be entirely unaware that they are communicating with an AI device, via speech or even Morse Code transmission mode.

This we believe is a form of misrepresentation that present legislation does not yet acknowledge. Technology used this way has the capacity to undermine trust in Amateur station integrity, particularly during national and international Amateur Radio contesting.

This new LCD document is intended to be valid for several years. While we understand that legislation will not stop the actions of bad individuals, we have an opportunity here to incorporate a rule which will prevent the normalisation and general use of AI misrepresentation into the future.

We propose the following section addition to the LCD:

- (6) A person shall not produce or enable transmissions that falsely represent being a natural person, or imitate the identity of a natural person, unless:
 - (a) The transmission is an automated identification of an amateur station
 - (b) The content of the transmission is readily identifiable as not originating from a natural person.

This wording has been selected so that it does not exclude existing automated transmissions such as FT8 digital modes, short scripts and macros used by operators and voice repeater, beacon and link identifications. The intent is to prevent autonomous AI misrepresentation as being a natural person.

Item 4. Use of AX prefix on Special Occasions

Section 14 of the proposed LCD includes the following sub-section

- (4) If a call sign commences with the letters VK, the person may substitute those letters with the letters AX
 - when complying with subsections (1) and (2) on the following dates each year:
 - (a) 26 January;

- (b) 25 April;
- (c) 17 May.

Note: 26 January is Australia Day, 25 April is ANZAC Day, and 17 May is World Telecommunication Day.

Example: On a date specified in subsection (4), a person who is assigned the VK1ZZZ call sign may use instead the AX1ZZZ call sign.

Our position is that the limitations created by fixed dates only in the legislative document establish a lack of flexibility for what may be a future Special Event. We recommend that the wording of sub-section 4 be changed to include provision for the Minister or delegate of the Minister to approve the use of the AX prefix on exceptional occasions, in addition to the three dates already specified.

Recent examples of where this could have been applied are the death and funeral of Queen Elizabeth 2nd and the coronation of King Charles 3rd. An approaching example of an Exceptional occasion is the upcoming Olympics event in Brisbane.

We propose the wording of **sub-section 4 (d)** be changed to the following:

- (4) If a call sign commences with the letters VK, the person may substitute those letters with the letters AX when complying with subsections (1) and (2) on the following dates each year:
 - (a) 26 January;
 - (b) 25 April;
 - (c) 17 May;
 - (d) Ad hoc Special Event dates authorised by the Minister or ministerial delegate.

This concludes our proposed amendments to the **Amateur Licence Conditions Determination, 2025**. We the management team at the Radio Amateur Society of Australia wish to thank the ACMA for this opportunity to contribute to the preparation of this new legislative device.



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The Radio Amateur Society of Australia

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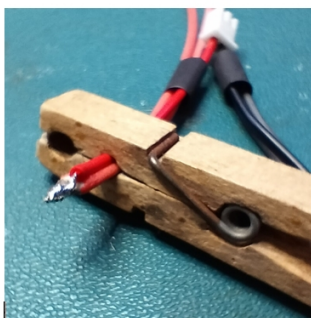
RASA relies on member fees and donations, so that we can offer our resources free to everyone. We're inviting you to sign up or renew your membership, or simply donate. You can do this at our website: vkradioamateurs.org

Workshop Tips and Tricks

Andy VK4KCS

Here are a couple of small aids that make life in the Radio and Electronics workshop just a little easier.

The first involves nothing more than wooden clothes pegs. A couple of pegs, glued to a piece of plywood, are perfect for holding two wires, component wires and anything else that has to be soldered together and refuses to cooperate by lying still on the bench.



Also, a number of wires twisted together that need tinning can be held in one of the holes on the peg. Once you have set yourself up with this handy jig, many other uses will become apparent.

The second is a tool for measuring the length of wires, heatshrink etc.

The job I had involved terminating multicore cables to D15 and D25 connectors, each pin of which needed to have a 10mm long heatshrink sleeve. Measuring and cutting hundreds of sleeves using a ruler grew tiresome very quickly.

So I made up this device from a length of 1mm thick 10mm x 10mm aluminium angle. The holes along the back are 5mm apart from 5mm to 60mm and the stop can be



transferred to the slot at the other end and set for lengths which are not multiples of 5mm. The stop is tapped for a screw, with a washer soldered into the slot in the screw head, to fix the stop where it is set.

Slide the material into the angle up to the stop and hold it with a finger, align the flat side of the side cutters against the open end of the jig and snip.

One more Tip:

How to learn if the gismo you plan to use in a project is transparent to R.F.

Put a cup of water as a dummy load on one side of the Microwave Oven turntable and the Device Under Test on the other side. Run the oven for 60 seconds at 1100 watts. If the water gets hot but the Device under Test doesn't, then you know that the gizmo is unaffected by RF. There's your answer, Jim.

Do you have any similar ideas that you want to share with the world? (well, at least the world of Amateur Radio) Please send them to info@vkradioamateurs.org

Remoting from A Loft

By Dick Strassburger, N9EEE (CWops #3113)

MY SITUATION

If you're faced with the choice of ham radio or no ham radio, the decision is clear — you find a way. That's the unwritten amateur radio mantra: find a way. This mindset guided me when I temporarily relocated to a rented condo 70 miles from home to care for a family member undergoing aggressive cancer treatment over a seven-month period.



Situated on the second floor of a brick and steel building with retailers below, the noise floor was high, and installing an effective outdoor multi-band antenna was seemingly impossible even for me. It seemed like ham radio would be off the table, until I considered operating remotely. There had to be a way! As a QRP operator accustomed to overcoming obstacles in the field, the idea of remote access to my home station quickly shifted from a fleeting thought to a determined goal.

What surprised me was the scarcity of practical guides for average operators like myself, despite remote radio being around for years. (Had my head been buried in the sand?) It turns out that growing demand and technological advances have brought more accessible products to market, making remote operation feasible for budget-conscious CW enthusiasts. What heightened my interest? A browser-based application.

My home station is simple: an ICOM IC-7300 running 5 watts into an End Fed Half Wave Antenna. I don't have a tower or a rotor, so my remote control needs are minimal. The antenna covers 40m, 20m, 15m, and 10m, while the IC-7300's tuner extends my reach to 30m, 17m, and 12m. It all works seamlessly.

I'll admit, I'm one of those who hasn't yet mastered electronic logging while linked to my radio — but that's my New Year's resolution. So, integrating logging capabilities became a priority in my remote setup.

Ultimately, the journey to establish a remote station wasn't just about staying on the air; it was about preserving a sense of normalcy and connection during a challenging time. And in true ham spirit, when there's a will, there's always a way.

DOWN AND DIRTY RESEARCH

As I mentioned, I navigated my way through assembling my remote radio setup with some difficulty, largely due to the lack of comprehensive written articles on the subject, both in print and online. Instead, I relied on the advice of others, primarily through various ham radio "reflectors" where users shared random comments. Even then, I struggled to find complete answers that would lead me to a clear checklist or guide. Google became another resource, guiding me to a few potential solutions, though the associated websites often lacked the depth I needed, despite my relatively simple requirements. It quickly became apparent that this is a niche market.

The first application I tried was a complete failure. Although reportedly popular among Icom owners, it refused to function, and the developer was notably rude and unhelpful in resolving the issues. Fortunately, I was still within the trial period, so no money was lost. Eventually, I discovered RemoteTX, drawn not only by its

specifications and positive user feedback but also by glowing reviews of the developer's accessibility and support. Calling Marcus's support "helpful" is an understatement; we've had many lengthy phone calls exploring various scenarios to optimize CW operation in RemoteTX, making the experience truly enjoyable.

MY REMOTE RADIO

Home: Pewaukee, WI (25 miles west of Milwaukee in southeast Wisconsin) Station: HF radio: ICOM IC-7300

Antenna: End-Fed Half-Wave antenna.

Internet: Local cable with 2.4 MHz and 5.0 MHz WiFi (note: both the Rpi and CW Hotline prefer 2.4 Mhz). Fiber is not available. 5G Air was attempted by discontinued due to high latency.

Raspberry Pi with control software and WiFi connection. USB cable with toroid connected to USB port on IC-7300.

CW Hotline with WiFi connection. 3.5mm connectors and cable to Key input on IC-7300



Remote gear on left side of desk:
Raspberry Pi in clear enclosure. CW Hotline in black enclosure. USB cable with toroid connected to radio.

Center: IC-7300.

Right: power supply.

Remote location:

Arlington Heights, IL (70 miles due south, northwest suburb of Chicago in northeast Illinois)

Table-top station: quite simple,

Laptop: Windows 11 OS. Chrome browser with link to RemoteTx server.

CW Hotline: duplicate local keyer with WiFi connection. Links to the CW Hotline keyer at home via a separate server.

Headphone amplifier: adjusts the output volume of the CW Hotline keyer.

Y-cable and noise isolators: combining two different audio sources to feed my headphones (keyer and computer audio) introduced a ground loop with annoying static.

Earbuds/headphones: an obvious need in shared space.



*Welcome to
Dick's Remote Ham Shack.*

Center: laptop with RemoteTX running.

Beneath the stand is a keyboard, CW Hotline, portable headphone amplifier, and Y-cables with noise isolators.

The stand and sign neaten up the accessories on the dining table. The XYL is pleased and so am I.

Right: CW Morse key



Equipment Used

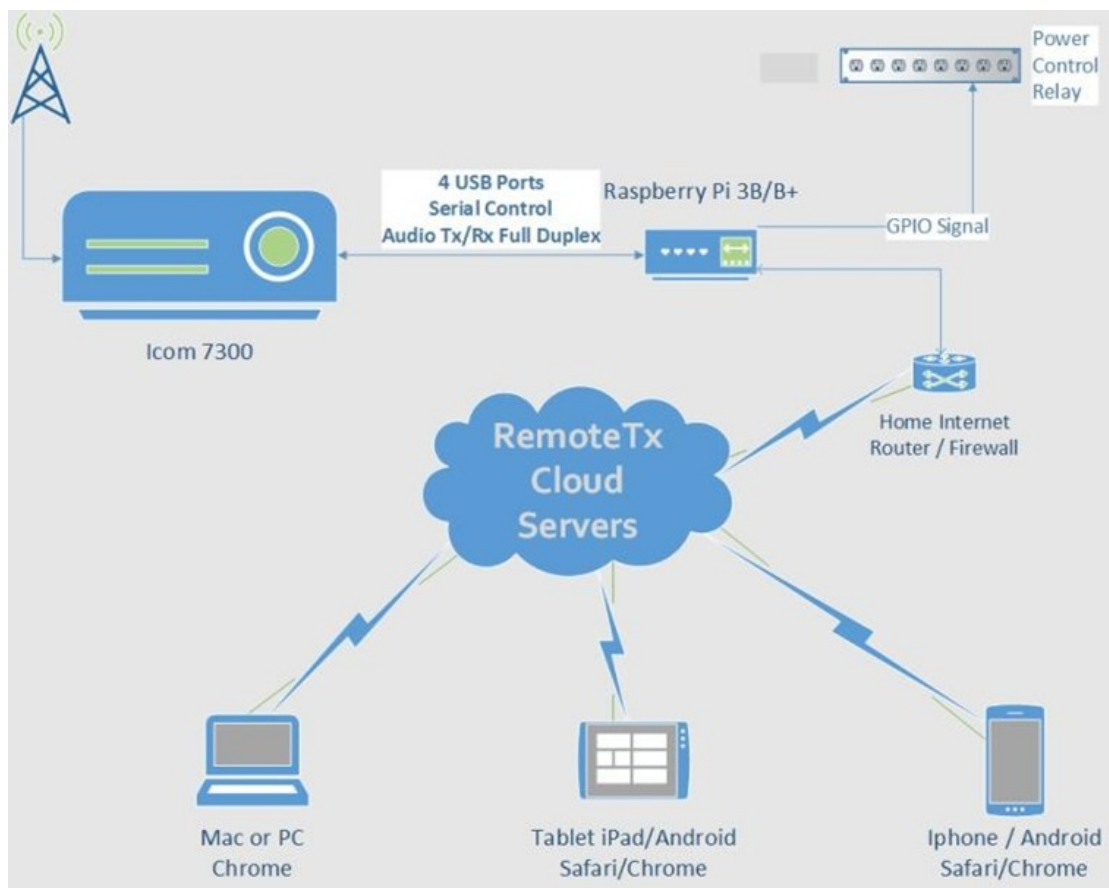
Remote TX: is a browser-based application that engages with your radio via an internet server and a Raspberry Pi situated alongside your radio. The output of the Raspberry Pi is a USB cable to the radio's USB port. It can be accessed with a smartphone, tablet, PC or Mac. There are three main parts to the system:

AT HOME: Raspberry Pi 4B running Remote Tx software (free) at the home station connected to the radio via USB cable and Internet (WiFi or ethernet). You can opt to provide your own Rpi or buy one. Mine came in a nice durable plastic case, heatsink, and fan for \$80 with the purchase of the subscription.

REMOTE LOCATION: A remote control client using a mobile phone, laptop or tablet running a compatible Internet browser with broadband or LTE cellular Internet access. I've used my smartphone's mobile hotspot in conjunction with my laptop and it has performed very well.

SUBSCRIPTION: 6-month or 12-month access to the Remote Tx server linked with your callsign. This connects the radio and remote operator. There is a cost associated with the subscription based on your desired length of contract. 6 months at \$40 and 12 months at \$70 at the time this article was published.

I opted for a 12-month program and purchased their Raspberry Pi 4B with the software installed and configured. It came with a power cable and wall-wart. I purchased the USB cable and a toroid to eliminate any potential RFI creeping into the cable.





How it Works:

In their words, “The RemoteTx® cloud service acts as a central connection point on the Internet that allows radio stations to be controlled by their owners remotely with minimal configuration. The service handles radio control signaling and manages audio call setup and monitoring. All control and audio network traffic is secured and encrypted. Remote operating is accomplished using compatible Internet browsers (Google Chrome, Apple Safari) on a variety of device platforms without installing plugins or additional software. In general, no special network or firewall configuration is necessary at either the station or the remote operator network location.

- There is no need to install and manage additional audio software such as Mumble etc. Both 2way audio and radio control are achieved from within the browser of the device being used to control the radio.
- No ports need to be exposed to the internet with port forwarding and a dedicated IP address is not needed. RemoteTx will adjust without user intervention if the station ip address changes. No dynamic DNS needs to be configured.
- The Icom 7300 has a USB port that allows both CI-V radio control as well as sound control. It also supports turning the radio on and off while power is continuously supplied to the radio.”

Raspberry PI

The RPi runs a custom software image that is a free download from Remote Tx. The operator is issued a unique callsign key from RemoteTx that is installed on the custom image. This allows the RPi to establish a secure encrypted connection to the RemoteTx Internet cloud servers when it boots. This connection is unique to the station call sign and remains established as long as the Rpi is powered on and the Internet connection is functioning.

If there is an Internet disruption it will re-connect automatically once the disruption is resolved. This connection is used by RemoteTx to control radios and sound cards connected to the Rpi.

RemoteTx Cloud Service

The RemoteTx® cloud service is provisioned nearest to the global location of the operator’s radio station. This ensures minimum latency and optimum network performance regardless of which world region the station is in.

Internet Remote Device

Remote operation of the station is initiated by opening an Internet browser on a laptop or mobile device and going to a unique URL. This initiates a secure ssl connection and the user will be prompted for a username and password and then be granted access to the radio control interface which is delivered from the RemoteTx cloud servers. The first time the user connects to RemoteTx, the browser will prompt the user to allow access to use the microphone of the device.



This allows bi-directional audio to be managed within the browser without installing plugins or extra software.

Audio

The operator has full control of the audio settings at both ends of the connection. To initiate an audio connection in the Audio tab, the operator starts the audio process on the RPi choosing the USB sound card that is connected to the desired radio. Within about 5 seconds the 'Call Radio' button will appear. Clicking on the 'Call Radio' button will establish a full duplex audio connection between the operator's browser device and the remote radio. During call setup, the RemoteTx system will evaluate the network between the station and the browser device and automatically choose the most direct network connection. If the underlying networks are reliable, the audio will stay connected indefinitely until the operator hangs up the connection. If there is network disruption, RemoteTx will attempt to automatically reconnect the audio.

Station Control Interface

The Station Control Interface is neatly laid out and organized according to function. The display shows many of the features on the face of the IC-7300 to provide consistency and familiarity with the operation of the radio. The Interface interacts via C-IV and therefore most of the features on the front panel are available and some of those in the menu are available as well. Something I was very concerned about was put to rest almost immediately – the Power On/Off button. Yes, I have that control and it works!

If a function doesn't have an ASCII command attached to it, it will not appear on the Station Control Interface. Some of the missing functions are:

- Zero beating
- Sidetone frequency cannot be adjusted remotely
- No notch filter
- No recording capability
- XIT/RIT adjusts in non-linear steps
- No FM mode (don't really care)

It should be noted that the station control interface supports keyboard keying only – no external keys – and includes the use of 10 text memories. I overcame the lack of supporting a key with CW Hotline (see below). A third party makes a keyer to computer conversion kit that converts dits and dahs to its corresponding letter. The downside is that a character is sent only when all dits and dahs composing that letter have been received by the interface. So, imagine the delays and odd spacing such as experienced when sending my call, N9EEE: dah-dit dah-dah-dah-dah-dit dit dit dit would sound like N -----9 E E E.

Getting used to computer vs hand control was a bit of a learning curve for me, but like anything new, I acclimated well and am now adept at the smart buttons and the other controls. For example, using the VFO is a breeze when you've mastered the arrow keys on the keyboard. However, after using any other function on the interface you must re-select one of the commands at the frequency display in order to activate use of the keyboard arrow keys.

Sidetone: This is intended for listening to characters generated by the interface – keyboard keying. The sidetone is not generated at the computer but rather a response from the radio upstream to the computer. It's quite responsive and has the



option to type characters or words. One important point that I learned is that when using CW Hotline – or any third party keyer using its own server – it's easy to be fooled into thinking the sidetone in the interface is responsive to the keyer. It is not. It is responsive to the radio. Again, we are using two different internet streams – one for rig control and one for keyer – so there may be some delay in hearing the keying coming back from the radio vs the instantaneous sound of a local keyer. A sidenote on the sidetone is that the tone must be adjusted at the radio and is not a feature of the interface.

Filters: Just like on the radio, Wide (1), Med (2), and Nar (3) were easily selected. Nicely positioned slider controls allow for redefining the width and shape of each filter which gets really handy in contest environments when tweaking filters is often necessary.

Sound quality: Because the sound is coming from the consumer-oriented amplifier inside the computer than the communications-oriented settings in the radio, the frequency response and tonality will sound more stereophonic. If I had an equalizer in my laptop, a custom sound shape might make for an interesting way to discern signals in a tight bandwidth. I found the thumping of nearby CW signals can get disturbing unless you put filter 3 in use.

Split: Running split was a breeze and may be easier to set-up than on the radio. As always, remember to turn off Split when you're done using it. Ask me how I know.

Waterfall: This has very nice control of the waterfall display. The pre-defined widths each step mirrors the radio. Though not as robust as the radio, the feature-set of the waterfall display is quite acceptable and offers many useful features.

Integrations: N1MM+ and other logging programs can be integrated. I haven't gotten that far but it's on my bucket list.

CW HOTLINE

CW Hotline from Ham Radio Solutions is the only keyer I found on the market specifically designed to connect two units for remote operation. According to Ham Radio Solutions, CW Hotline is "an internet WiFi-connected CW keyer that provides a private Morse code link between friends, enables remote keying of a CW transceiver, functions as a stand-alone Morse code iambic keyer, and serves as a latency-free interface for HamRadio.Solutions VBand service."

For remote operation, the idea is to purchase two CW Hotline units and link them via their remote server, with one unit connected to the radio's key input. I opted for the kit version at \$50 each, as I enjoy assembling kits, and this build was straightforward—completed in just 30 minutes.

I tested the units in different parts of the house using two separate internet connections and was impressed by the nearly instantaneous response. While some latency was present due to internet connectivity, it was only noticeable when the units were side by side. A standout feature is the LED indicators, which show when the unit is connected to the network and when both units detect each other.

One limitation is the sidetone, which is loud and lacks volume control—it's either on or off. This wasn't an issue at the radio end, where I simply turned it off. At my remote location, I listened to the local keyer through a headphone amplifier which can adjust the audio level according to the ambient noise in the room.



While assembling my Remote Radio system, I had the opportunity to speak with the developers at Ham Radio Solutions, who were incredibly responsive and helpful. It feels like a rare privilege to have direct access to the developers of both RemoteTX and CW Hotline to assist in resolving any compatibility issues between the two systems.

How It Works

The CW Hotline unit is WiFi-connected to one of their servers using a unique identifier for that unit. All settings (speed, SSID, password, link key, call sign, local tone (freq) and WPM) are configured while connected to the server. Though the units may be powered independently, when connected through your computer you are able to alter those settings. Two units are connected when using the same link key. This feels safe to me, so I leave the units running indefinitely. Since the radio is controlled through RemoteTx, there is no chance of rogue operation in CW.

There is some latency involved when sending CW through the CW Hotline servers and hearing the resulting code through the RemoteTx servers. It's enough to be a serious irritant and impede operation, so I have figured out a simple solution – turn off the sidetone in RemoteTx.

Latency

Latency refers to the time delay for a packet of data to travel from its source to its destination. It is typically measured in milliseconds. Even a latency as low as 90 milliseconds—less than one-tenth of a second—can significantly affect network and application performance. Is latency important for CW operators of remote radios?

Yes, latency is important, especially for contesters or operators who need quick, precise responses. If you're an avid contester who needs to be the first to be heard after an exchange or if you use a key or paddles, latency becomes crucial.

For contesters and DX chasers who depend on instant response, any latency higher than 50ms can be the difference between being heard and being lost in a pile-up. If timing is a key part of your strategy, excessive latency can disrupt your plan.

For CW operators using a keyboard, latency is usually less noticeable since the characters are sent through the Station Control Interface. The sidetone from the interface provides can be heard as each character is transmitted, creating a typical hearing 'M' when you intended to send 'T' or, in worse cases, an echo – the audio version of double vision.

This issue could be exacerbated if both streams have high latency, potentially adding the delays together. Fortunately, I have not personally encountered this problem. By aiming for a highquality connection, latency can be minimized and, in many cases, become imperceptible.

My Remote Radio Experience

My contesting style revolves around Search & Pounce. I attempted running a frequency in the SST as a trial, but prioritizing my laptop screen made it challenging



to use the keyboard and macros for sending, while simultaneously logging the call sign and exchange. Constantly switching between tabs proved inefficient, reinforcing the need to integrate N1MM+ for a smoother experience. For now, I'm content with S&P — after all, operating QRP has made me accustomed to this approach.

As previously mentioned, I enjoy using my CW paddles, though two significant issues need addressing. First, simultaneous usage of sidetone in both the Station Control Interface and the CW Hotline keyer can be problematic, as discussed previously. The latency disparity between these two sources affects timing, making sending sound erratic or unintelligible.

Second, using CW paddles alongside the keyboard or text macros simultaneously is impractical. This setup requires activating sidetone from both sources, creating a chaotic experience. Even with interface sidetone turned off, switching between the keyboard, paddles, mouse, and back is mentally taxing. Perhaps more practice will breed familiarity, but for now, the workflow remains cumbersome.

Since my laptop serves as my radio interface, I juggle multiple applications like AC Log, DX Summit, POTA spots, SOTA Watch, and other ham apps while maintaining focus on RemoteTx. A second laptop would alleviate this burden, though practice might improve efficiency. I'm curious to learn how others manage this dynamic setup.

Reliable internet service is paramount for remote radio operations. Connectivity issues like dropouts, jitters, and packet loss disrupt the experience, so securing the best possible connection is essential. Living in a rural area without fiber access, I initially tried AT&T Air (5G home service), but its 300 ms latency was unacceptable. Returning to my local cable provider improved stability, though occasional anomalies persist. I'm hoping fiber is an option, soon. I'm uncertain whether Starlink would offer a stable, budget-friendly alternative.

After addressing these challenges, I'm thrilled to operate remotely with the system I've assembled, which aligns well with my style. The ability to chase DX, work POTA stations, participate in MSTs or CWTs, and enjoy ragchewing keeps me motivated. Operating 100% CW on HF makes it even more crucial for everything to function seamlessly. Even with the challenges of being a QRP operator, working Remote Radio just adds to the excitement of being on the air. Overall, I'm satisfied with the Remote Radio station I've assembled and look forward to more time on the air than I otherwise would have.

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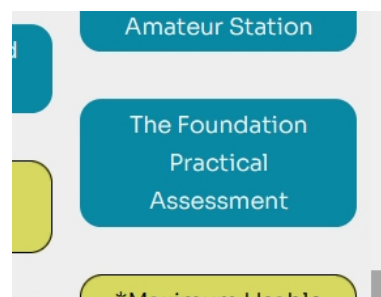
THIS IS AMATEUR RADIO

thisisamateurradio.com

Each month the This Is Amateur Radio site (TIAR) grows a little more. As with all aspects of RASA the site is being developed by volunteers, so the rate of growth is affected by other project work in progress.

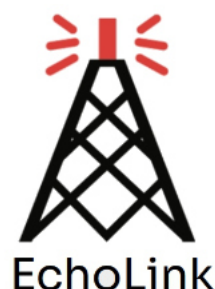
Do you know anyone studying for their Foundation license and must complete the Prac exam? Click on the tile to the right to see what is required.

This page breaks down the Prac Assessment into 11 steps. Each step has information and links to video clips which describes what the candidate needs to know.



Have you ever wanted to talk around the world, but you live in an area that limits antennas? Perhaps the Internet Radio Linking Project (IRLP) network is for you. Access a local VHF or UHF repeater and use your DTMF keypad to link to thousands of other repeaters around the world. Complementing IRLP is Echolink access, which allows remote access to repeaters from a PC, phone or tablet. Great for international travel where bringing communications gear through customs is problematic. These pages are a great introduction to those services.

<https://thisisamateurradio.com/p211-irlp/>



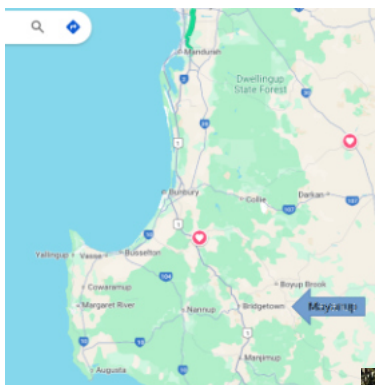
<https://thisisamateurradio.com/p201-echolink/>

We aim to represent all the important aspects of Amateur Radio at this site. If you feel that you have something to add to a page, or are involved in a topic not yet covered, your contribution would be welcome.

Send enquiries to info@vkradioamateurs.org

The Mike Beall Memorial HamCampion 2025

HamCampion is an activity of the Southern Electronics Group, which covers the South West and Great Southern regions of Western Australia, servicing 63,000 square kilometres. The group's members are spread round the towns of that area, and some live further afield. HamCampion is one of the activities conducted by the group to give members an excuse to get together.



Mayanup is about three hours drive South of Perth, and 150 kilometres inland (East) from Margaret River.

The workings of the event are simple - Amateurs converge on a sports ground somewhere near the middle of the area, and bring their own camping equipment, food and radio toys. There is loads of camping space, tall trees and open spaces. What else could an Amateur want?



2025 is the fourth time HamCampion has run as an event, and for the first time, the event has been given a name, being named after Mike Beall, VK6MB (SK). Mike was a stalwart of HamCampion, and a great proponent of portable operation. Mike was very inventive, and made a lot of his own portable equipment. He loved showing people what he had done and how it worked.

About fifteen happy campers turned up with a selection of mobile or portable accommodation, and a few others made a day trip so they could catch up with everyone.

A very important part of the weekend was being together and telling stories, some of which may need verifying. Anyone who started talking about their ailments were told to go and get on 80 metres.

The Mike Beall Memorial Hampcamption 2025 was on the weekend 16-17-18 May. Thanks Darren VK6EK for organising the venue and event.



It was a beautiful space for all sorts of antennas



Sorry Sir. I tripped on the guy rope.

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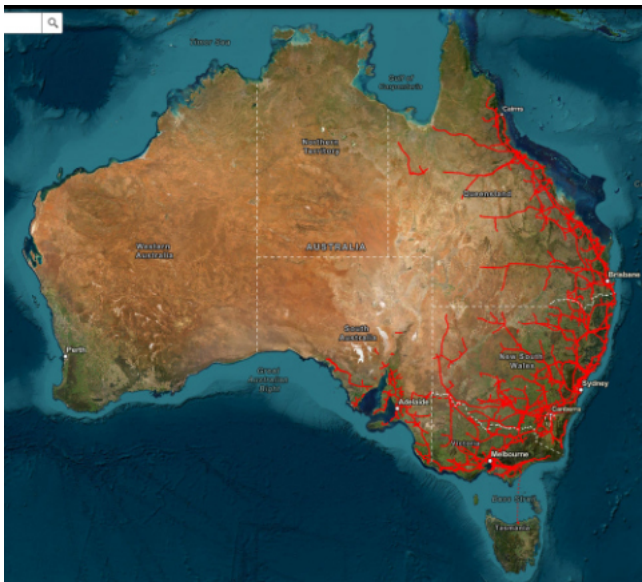
www.elitecommunications.com.au

Australian Power infrastructure map expanded

Two years ago QTC introduced the website dedicated to identifying power line infrastructure for some parts of Australia. At that time the site was limited to NSW, Queensland and South Australia. This is an amazing tool for anyone trying to document the source of power line interference affecting their HF radio.

We are pleased to present an update, as now Victoria has been added to the site. This can be found [HERE](#)

Now it is possible to zoom down to the street level for the entirety of Australia's East and identify the owner of every power pole and overhead wire. The map controls are simple. Use a wheel mouse to zoom into an area of interest and click on an item to identify it by its unique code and note the company responsible for that infrastructure.



There is of course some technique and art to identify an actual culprit of RF noise. There is a lot of information about this process on the [QRM.guru website](#).

Simply visit the site and enter 'power line noise' in the search bar, or follow this [direct link](#).

There are still some states and territories missing from this site, but hopefully they will be added over time. We will keep you updated.



RASA AGM for 2025

RASA intends to `conduct its Annual General Meeting on Saturday 6th September. A notice to members will be sent in due course - this is a heads-up so you can mark your calendar.

OLRC Epithet or Compliment?

I recall when RASA first launched itself on the Australian Amateur Radio scene, offering an alternative representative body for Australian Amateurs.



A core of supporters of another Amateur Radio representative body didnt like what RASA represented, and embarked on a campaign of ridicule and name calling, using epithets such as “the online radio club”, referring to the Australia-wide membership and the relatively new practice of holding meetings online.

That tag is still thrown around by those with little or no imagination, but let’s look at a bit of history.

Not long after RASA was formed, and the name calling began, the COVID pandemic struck, and we had to stay at home and many clubs and organisations went into recess.

Businesses and families began doing meetings online using ZOOM, Microsoft Teams and other online meeting facilities.

Nowadays online meetings are commonplace. Amateur Radio clubs are holding online meetings, or including online options in their face to face meetings.



RASA set the trend. We’re able to be trendsetters because we are unencumbered by complex organisational structures and building assets. What was intended as an epithet, and insult, has turned into a compliment for our quick thinking and ability to adapt.

We are, indeed, online, and on track.

Images are the result of some fun with A.I.

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New Operating Award Celebrates QRZ's 30th Anniversary

The QRZ team recently announced a new award to mark their 30th anniversary.

"It's been eight years since QRZ began our operating awards program and in that time, we have issued over 373,000 awards. We want to thank all of you who use the QRZ Logbook on a daily basis, and there are A LOT of you. At this time, QRZ logbooks contain over 817 Million QSOs!

Our newest operating award is called the 30 Years of QRZ Award and it is based solely on communications between QRZ users. The award is achieved when an operator has successfully completed on-air contacts with 30 members of QRZ from around the world. The award celebrates QRZ's 30th Anniversary by recognizing your achievements.

We encourage you to take a look at the QRZ Awards Analyzer to see whether you qualify for the 30 Years of QRZ Award at this time or to see how many more contacts you'll need to qualify. Thank you and 73 from the QRZ Team!"

QRZ Awards are FREE

As a member of QRZ with a valid amateur radio license, you are eligible to earn awards based on your QRZ Logbook contents.

Your QRZ operating awards show up on your callsign page in a special tab called "Awards".

There is no requirement to become a QRZ Subscriber to earn operating awards.

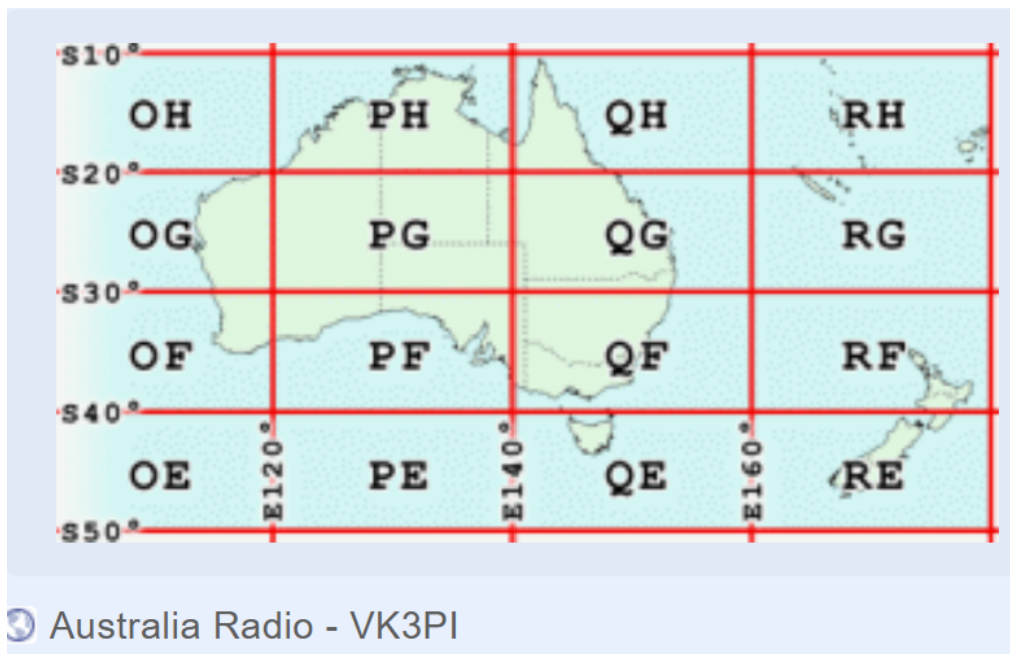


Maidenhead Locators

Amateur radio, often referred to as ham radio, is a popular and diverse hobby that allows individuals to communicate using various radio frequencies and modes. These communications can range from local voice chats to global digital data exchanges. One of the core aspects of the hobby is logging and confirming contacts with other operators, often in different geographic locations. To facilitate this process, especially in contests, awards, and propagation studies, a standardized method of representing geographic locations is essential. This is where the **Maidenhead Locator System** comes into play.

What Is the Maidenhead Locator System?

The **Maidenhead Locator System** is a geographic coordinate system developed for identifying positions on the Earth's surface. Named after Maidenhead, England, where it was first proposed in 1980 by a group of radio amateurs from the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU), the system provides a concise and user-friendly way to describe a location.



The Maidenhead system divides the Earth into a grid of alphanumeric squares, known as “locators” or “grid squares.” These are based on latitude and longitude, but are encoded in a simpler, more manageable form using letters and numbers. A standard Maidenhead locator can be 4, 6, 8, or even more characters long, with greater character length indicating higher positional accuracy.

How It Works

The system starts by dividing the Earth into 18 zones of 20 degrees longitude (from A to R) and 18 zones of 10 degrees latitude (also A to R). These are called **fields** and form the first two letters of a Maidenhead locator.

Each field is further subdivided into a **square** of 2 degrees longitude by 1 degree latitude. This gives the next two **numbers**, ranging from 00 to 99.



Optionally, for greater precision, squares can be subdivided into **sub-squares**, giving two additional letters, and this can continue even further with more characters.

For example, the locator **PG54mp** refers to Uluru, a location in the centre of Australia, with each additional character increasing the accuracy of the position. Try it [HERE](https://www.karhukoti.com/maidenhead-grid-square-locator/?grid=PG54mp). <https://www.karhukoti.com/maidenhead-grid-square-locator/?grid=PG54mp>

Importance in Amateur Radio

1. Efficient Communication of Location

One of the primary reasons Maidenhead locators are essential is that they provide a **compact and consistent method** of communicating geographic information. In the heat of a contest or during a quick contact (QSO), it's much easier and faster to send a six-character locator like **JN48qw** than to relay full latitude and longitude coordinates or a city name, which can be ambiguous or lengthy.

This concise format also makes it ideal for digital modes like FT8 and PSK31, where messages are highly compressed and time-constrained.

2. Contesting and Awards

In amateur radio, contests are events where operators try to make as many contacts as possible within a set period, often focusing on specific bands or modes. Many contests award points based on the **distance between stations**, and Maidenhead locators are used to calculate this.

For example, in contests for VHF and higher frequencies, scoring is based on distance, measured in kilometers, between the Maidenhead locators of each station. More distant contacts earn more points. Additionally, some contests provide bonuses for contacting rare or hard-to-reach grid squares.

Beyond contests, Maidenhead locators are essential for pursuing awards such as the **VUCC (VHF/UHF Century Club)**, which requires confirmed contacts with stations in at least 100 different grid squares. These awards incentivize operators to reach out to distant and rare locations, fostering a global spirit of experimentation and collaboration.

3. Propagation Studies

Understanding how radio waves propagate across the globe is a central part of amateur radio. Signals behave differently depending on solar activity, time of day, frequency, and geographic conditions. Maidenhead locators are a standardized method for tracking where a signal originates and is received, making them invaluable in propagation analysis.

For example, when an operator notes that they received a signal from **KO23ad** on the 10-meter band at a certain time, they can use this data—along with thousands of others shared publicly—to draw conclusions about ionospheric conditions or the presence of phenomena like **sporadic-E** or **tropospheric ducting**.



Websites and tools like **PSK Reporter**, **WSPRnet**, and **Reverse Beacon Network** use Maidenhead locators to map real-time propagation paths. These tools visualize signal flow globally and provide operators with immediate insight into where their signals are being heard. RASA supports the Reverse Beacon Network, with its station VK3RASA, located in Victoria, Australia, location QF21

4. Digital Modes and Automated Logging

Modern amateur radio increasingly uses digital modes, many of which are highly automated. Modes like **FT8**, **FT4**, **JS8Call**, and **WSPR** rely heavily on software to initiate and complete QSOs. In these modes, location is usually communicated using the Maidenhead grid system. RASA operates a WSPR beacon alongside the reverse beacon.

Logbook applications, such as **Logbook of the World (LoTW)** and **QRZ.com Logbook**, utilize Maidenhead locators to validate contacts and ensure accurate matching between logged QSOs. This is essential for confirming contacts for awards and for maintaining accurate logs.

The use of standardized locators also allows for easy integration with GPS, mapping tools, and antenna aiming systems—especially important in portable and satellite operations.

5. Satellite and Moonbounce (EME) Communication

For operations involving satellites or Earth-Moon-Earth (EME) communication, precise geographic location is critical. Since the path of satellites and the moon is dynamic, operators need to know their own and the target station's exact position.

Maidenhead locators, particularly when extended to eight or ten characters, provide the necessary resolution to point directional antennas and calculate accurate azimuth and elevation angles. Satellite tracking programs and EME software typically use these locators as input, reinforcing their importance in high-precision amateur radio activities.

6. Emergency Communications and Field Operations

In emergency scenarios, amateur radio operators may provide communications support when normal infrastructure is down. Being able to quickly and clearly communicate location is vital in such situations.

Using Maidenhead locators ensures that all operators, regardless of language or country, can interpret and relay position data accurately. For example, during exercises or real emergencies, a message might say: "Resource team located at FN43fx, requesting backup."

Similarly, during Field Days, where stations operate from temporary locations, Maidenhead locators help document the stations' locations and allow for easy scoring and analysis of contacts.

Conclusion

The Maidenhead Locator System is much more than a convenience—it is a **foundational tool** for the global amateur radio community. By providing a standardized, concise, and precise method of representing geographic locations, Maidenhead locators enable more effective communication, better contesting, scientific analysis of propagation, and efficient operation in both routine and emergency scenarios.

AR	BR	CR	DR	ER	FR	GR	HR	IR	JR	KR	LR	MR	NR	OR	PR	QR	RR
AQ	BQ	CQ	DQ	EQ	FQ	GQ	HQ	IQ	JQ	KQ	LQ	MQ	NQ	OQ	PQ	QQ	RQ
AP	BP	CP	DP	EP	FP	GP	HP	IP	JP	KP	LP	MP	NP	OP	PP	QP	RP
AO	BO	CO	DO	EO	FO	GO	HO	IO	JO	KO	LO	MO	NO	OO	PO	QO	RO
AN	BN	CN	DN	EN	FN	GN	HN	IN	JN	KN	LN	MN	NN	ON	PN	QN	RN
AM	BM	CM	DM	EM	FM	GM	HM	IM	JM	KM	LM	MM	NM	OM	PM	QM	RM
AL	BL	CL	DL	EL	FL	GL	HL	IL	JL	KL	LL	ML	NL	OL	PL	QL	RL
AK	BK	CK	DK	EK	FK	GK	HK	IK	JK	KK	LK	MK	NK	OK	PK	QK	RK
AJ	BJ	CJ	DJ	EJ	FJ	GJ	HJ	IJ	JJ	KJ	LJ	MJ	NJ	OJ	PJ	QJ	RJ
AI	BI	CI	DI	EI	FI	GI	HI	II	JI	KI	LI	MI	NI	OI	PI	QI	RI
AH	BH	CH	DH	EH	FH	GH	HH	IH	JH	KH	LH	MH	NH	OH	PH	QH	RH
AG	BG	CG	DG	EG	FG	GG	HG	IG	JG	KG	LG	MG	NG	OG	PG	QG	RG
AF	BF	CF	DF	EF	FF	GF	HF	IF	JF	KF	LF	MF	NF	OF	PF	QF	RF
AE	BE	CE	DE	EE	FE	GE	HE	IE	JE	KE	LE	ME	NE	OE	PE	QE	RE
AD	BD	CD	DD	ED	FD	GD	HD	ID	JD	KD	LD	MD	ND	OD	PD	QD	RD
AC	BC	CC	DC	EC	FC	GC	HC	IC	JC	KC	LC	MC	NC	OC	PC	QC	RC
AB	BB	CB	DB	EB	FB	GB	HB	IB	JB	KB	LB	MB	NB	OB	PB	QB	RB
AA	BA	CA	DA	EA	FA	GA	HA	IA	JA	KA	LA	MA	NA	OA	PA	QA	RA

As amateur radio continues to evolve with new technologies and modes, the importance of consistent geographic referencing remains unchanged. Whether you're a casual operator chatting across town or a serious contester reaching for the far corners of the globe, understanding and using Maidenhead locators is an essential part of successful radio operation.

Resources:

Wikipedia article [HERE](#)

Interactive Maidenhead Locator Map [HERE](#)

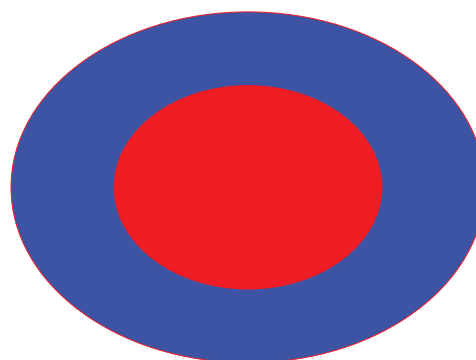
Video by KB9VBR [HERE](#)

RASA <https://vkradioamateurs.org/>

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RASA is always open to receiving new members, and if you wish you can simply make a donation to help offset our costs. Or both. It's your choice.

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2025 VKFF NATIONAL GET TOGETHER



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- RAFFLE WITH VARIOUS PRIZES
- SATURDAY EVENING DINNER FUNCTION, INCLUDING A GUEST SPEAKER AT THE EASTLAKE FOOTBALL CLUB
- SUNDAY MORNING BBQ BREAKFAST AT BLACK MOUNTAIN BBQ AREA, ANTENNA BUILDING PROJECT, FOLLOWED BY NUMEROUS VKFF PARK ACTIVATIONS ON SUNDAY IN THE CANBERRA REGION
- SUNDAY EVENING DINNER – GUNGHALIN LAKES GOLF CLUB
- CANBERRA TOUR OPTIONS ON MONDAY

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<https://www.wwffaustralia.com/2025-national-get-together.html>



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Are you new to the hobby?

The RASA Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook provides an introduction to our hobby for new Foundation class amateurs.

The book is published digitally. It contains many hotlinks to external websites with useful information.

It is available as an Acrobat pdf file suitable for reading on a PC or tablet. It can be printed if required.

Download the guidebook [HERE](#)

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VK3RASA REVERSE BEACON NETWORK

Located in Drouin West, Victoria, Australia.



Foundation Level Study Guide

RASA developed this resource to make your entry into the hobby easier and cheaper.

Like all our resources, the FLSG is free, and we encourage you to share it with your club, friends and others who may be interested in becoming a radio amateur.

The Study Guide is backed up by our other award-winning resources, including QRM Guru, the Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook, VKRegs and the Amateur Radio Tech Support knowledge system and helpdesk.

The Radio Amateur Society of Australia



Foundation Level Study Guide

V2 October 2024



Your Gateway to the World of Amateur Radio

Amateur Radio provides virtually unlimited opportunities for you to explore the technical, scientific and social aspects of this truly global hobby

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If you have any feedback or suggestions, please email us. Unlike stocked paper manuals, this electronic document can be changed easily; to account for changes to syllabi, regulations (such as the Class Licence) and improved teaching material.

A Free Amateur Radio Learning Resource

This multimedia learning resource has been developed by RASA and is provided free of charge.



To clubs, educators, and assessors. If you have any feedback we'd love to hear from you. Send an email to RASA - info@vkradioamateurs.org

We hope you enjoy using this innovative new resource, and welcome to the wonderful hobby of Amateur Radio.

The Foundation Level Study Guide is available [HERE](#).

FreeDV 2.0.0 has been released

FreeDV 2.0.0 has been released, containing the first official release of the RADE V1 mode previously trialled over several preview releases. Radio Autoencoder (RADE) technology is a new approach to sending speech over HF radio. It combines Machine Learning (ML) with classical DSP to send high quality speech over HF radio at SNRs as low as -2dB in a bandwidth of 1500 Hz.

More information about Radio Autoencoder can be found [HERE](#)
The FreeDV website is [HERE](#)

As part of this effort, deprecated modes (700C, 800XA, 2020 and 2020B) have been removed from the application. Additionally, this contains numerous bug fixes and non-RADE specific enhancements from the last official release (1.9.9.2).

FreeDV 2.0.0 can be downloaded using the following links:

For [Windows](#) For [macOS](#)

More information about this release, including changelog, can be found on GitHub [release page](#)

There's a [video of FreeDV 2.0.0 in action](#). It's in Spanish, however it's a recording of a transmission on 40 metres, provided by Jose Eugenia Maison LU5DKI, the text accompanying the video, translated to English, says:

“Friends premiering the latest version of the newly appeared RADE I think it is the definitive one so very happy and it is very well doing the test through an SDR of Falkland Islands in the 40 -meter band is heard without any inconvenience with very low propagation it also works as I pass the discharge link.”

GGREC HAMFEST SALE 2025

On **Saturday, July 5** the Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics Club will be hosting a Hamfest sale . the venue is at the **Longwarry Community Hall** at 14 Kennedy St. Longwarry, approx 60km East of Dandenong, Vic. The venue is easy to find. It is just 3 km South of the freeway interchange, 150 metres South of the Longwarry train station and level crossing.



Doors open at 10:00 am for buyers. Entry fee is \$7 Doors open at 8:30 for stall holders.
No trading before 10:00 am please.

**We are pleased to announce that all 30 tables
available to stallholders have been booked!**

Direct enquiries to Ian Jackson VK3BUF via: hamfest@ggrec.org.au or call 5644 3118



QRM.guru

*Resolving interference
for Amateur Radio*

**QRM.guru was developed to assist Radio Amateurs
to deal with RF noise and interference.**

It is an educational and reference resource. The information
provided on the pages is not unique or regarded as a new
discovery. QRM.guru is a volunteer powered resource.

Click on the image to visit the QRM.guru site

<https://qrm.guru/>

News about ARRL

From the ARRL Friends Facebook page

Callsigns submitting QSO to LoTW During the Past 365 Days

LoTW provides a programmatic interface that reports each callsign that has submitted one or more QSOs to LoTW and the date of the most recent QSO submitted by that callsign. Previous sentence needs fixing The information reported is updated each Sunday.

Here's an excerpt from the report generated today:

K1ZR 2015-12-03

K1ZTE 2025-05-03

K1ZW 2022-12-30

K1ZX 2015-03-23

K1ZXY 2019-09-15

K1ZY 2025-04-25

K1ZZ 2025-04-22

K1ZZ/3 2023-10-17

K1ZZI 2023-02-06

K1ZZI/J6 2015-10-14

K1ZZJ 2015-05-25

RASA DX Contest 2025

The format is as simple as it gets. This benefits both the contestants and the organiser.

Objective

The objective of this contest is to encourage greater participation and activity on the MF, HF and 6 metre bands. The contest is deliberately designed as a long form event, as many amateurs are unavailable for the more traditional contests held on weekends. It also provides the opportunity for those who like to operate in a more relaxed fashion to still take part in a national contest. This also allows amateurs the opportunity to use their 2×1 Contest Callsigns, a great way to attract the interest of international stations.



Bands: 160m through 10m, no WARC

Categories: – best score – slots (per Club Log)

First Prize for the winner of each category (a Plaque)

Digital - CW - SSB - Open (all modes)

One point per slot. A slot is a QSO on a band/mode.

ClubLog for scoring:

All participants must be members of RASA and must upload their logs to Clublog. Once you have an account with Clublog you can click on the Settings menu item and from there add clubs: choose RASA from the pulldown menu; your application will be sent to RASA administration for approval. If you need assistance send us an email.

Participation Award:

As in previous years, RASA encourages people to have a go. So long as you meet the minimum entry criteria, you will go into the draw for some great Participation Prizes. Last year we had a Rig Expert Antenna Analyser valued at \$350 This year it's a Zachtech WSPR Tx valued at \$230

PARTICIPATION Thresholds & Prizes:

All QSOs from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. To be eligible for participation prizes you must meet the minimum QSO and DXCC criteria.

CW Minimum Threshold: A minimum of 200 QSOs and a minimum of 25 DXCC.

Digital Minimum Threshold: 500 QSOs and a minimum of 50 DXCC.

SSB Minimum Threshold: 300 QSOs and a minimum of 25 DXCC.

Mixed Minimum Threshold: 400 QSOs and 50 DXCC – this will be for the more casual ops who like multi-mode operation.

These criteria apply for entry to the event, inclusion in the draw for the participation

prizes and First Place Plaques.

Participation Prizes: Major prize available to all participants – to be advised

Prize for CW Category – Morse Paddle valued at \$350 (pictured right)

Plaques: There will be plaques for the winner of each category. Please direct any queries to Chris VK3QB vk3qb(@) hotmail.com



- * Are you suffering QRM/EMI?
- * Do you need online assistance to resolve your noise issues?
- * What should you expect from the Regulator?

QRM Guru is a free online resource by RASA to help you resolve your QRM/EMI issues.

Find QRM GURU at <https://qrm.guru/>